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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Michael R. Rice et al.
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Office Action dated August 22, 2006, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and remarks into the above-caption patent application.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper
Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper

Certificate of Mailing/Transmission (37 C.F.R. Section 1.8(a)) I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

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Signature Date
Brian M. Dugan December 22, 2006
(name of person certifying)